

The Royal Society of Medicine

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

GENERAL MEETING OF FELLOWS.

November 13, 1918.

AT a General Meeting of the Fellows held at the Society's house, 1, Wimpole Street, on Wednesday, November 13, 1918, at 4.30 p.m.

Present: Sir Humphry Rolleston (President) in the Chair, Mr. MacAlister, Secretary, thirty-eight Fellows, and thirty-two visitors.

The PRESIDENT announced that this meeting had been called for the purpose of presenting to Sir ALFRED KEOGH, G.C.B. (late Director-General, Army Medical Service), the Diploma of Honorary Fellowship conferred upon him last Session. Addressing Sir Alfred, he said :—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is particularly appropriate that within a few days of the surrender of Germany we should do honour to Sir Alfred Keogh, who worked such wonders in preserving the health of our victorious troops and bore the burden and heat of the day in organizing the R.A.M.C. and expanding it to more than sevenfold its strength. To the Fellows of the Society who have elected him an Honorary Fellow Sir Alfred Keogh requires no introduction ; his outstanding achievements as an administrator and organizer in the greatest war of the world have rightly earned him lasting fame. Born in the Sister Isle, he rigidly conforms to the rule that an Irishman when clever or able is so in a superlative degree. He won his spurs as an administrator in the Boer War, where he fell a victim to typhoid fever, a disease practically eliminated from the British troops in the late war. Then, at the early age of 46, rapidly promoted to the post of Medical Director-General (1904-10), he introduced many reforms, among which the R.A.M.C. College—adorned not as (you will agree) it should have been with his own statue, but with that of his great predecessor, Sir James McGrigor, Medical

Director-General (1815-51)—will serve as a monument of his determination to improve the status of the Army Medical Service. During this period he also designed and organized the Territorial R.A.M.C., which has played such an important part in the Great War. With the termination of this office he became Director of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, but at the outbreak of war he returned to his duties at the War Office and took up the truly Herculean task of creating an efficient medical service on a war basis. In this he showed his wisdom by the free utilization of available civil talent in the form of consultants and experts, successfully blending them with the regular Service. His honours would take too long to recount, but the G.C.B., G.C.V.O., the Companionship of Honour, and the Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons may be mentioned.

Since the establishment of the Medical and Chirurgical Society in 1805 there have been but 146 Honorary Fellows, and of these only fifty-six have been British: of these twenty-three have been medically qualified, but the reason for their election was often, as in the case of Huxley, Hooker, the present Poet Laureate, and Professor E. G. Browne, special distinction in Science or Letters. No previous Medical Director-General of the British Navy or Army, not even his predecessor, Sir James McGrigor, has ever been elected; among the foreign Honorary Fellows, the Larreys, father (1841) and son (1868), have received the honour. Esmarch was a military surgeon.

Therefore, Sir Alfred Keogh, in electing you an Honorary Fellow the Royal Society of Medicine has conferred a jealously guarded honour, and in admitting you to the Roll as the fifty-seventh British Honorary Fellow, and handing you this Diploma, I am expressing the admiration and high esteem of your profession.

He then handed to Sir Alfred the Diploma of the Honorary Fellowship.

Sir ALFRED KEOGH, G.C.B., after signing the roll amid cheers, said:—

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have no words to express the feelings with which I have received this great honour. It would be impossible for me to tell you how greatly I value it, but I want to assure you that I thoroughly understand its meaning. I know that to-day you have put my name on a roll which contains the names of very eminent men, with none of whom have I any right to expect to be connected. And, sir, I should have shrunk from this honour, considering how jealously you guard it, and how rarely you offer it, had I not been sure that it was not so much a personal honour to myself, but that you desired to mark in some way your appreciation of the splendid work which has been done by my profession and your profession throughout this war. It was that, sir, which made me feel that after all I ought to come here to receive this high dignity. I feel, therefore, that in receiving it I am representing that enormous body of members of our profession who have in all these years striven to set up that highly efficient service which we knew could be set up and could make itself worthy of the

country if it only had the chance. I go even further, and I think you desired also especially to mark your interest in those medical men who formed before the war that relatively small body called the R.A.M.C., and who have been striving for years in the face of great difficulties and in the face of the forces of reaction to set up a service of the profession to which they belong which should be worthy of the Army and worthy of the country. You know as well as I do that there has never been a campaign in this country, be it large or be it small, in which the medical profession has not come out of it somewhat tarnished, not in their own estimation, nor in the estimation of those who know them well and know the work they did, but in the estimation of people unacquainted with the terrible difficulties with which that service had to contend. As far back as the Crimean War, or, even further, to the Peninsular Campaigns, we have a story of the great troubles and trials which that service has been endeavouring to overcome in order that its members might make it efficient and honoured by their civil brethren. You have been good enough to refer to my small part in these matters. When I joined the Army I was brought up by people who believed in the future of the medical service of the Army, and who believed in the future of the profession in its relation to public affairs. Many of us were taught to look forward to the time when we should be so organized that we might regard ourselves as being as efficient as any other branch of the Army or public service. It has been my one idea throughout all these years—and I have made a special study of the history of the Medical Corps and the efforts of the past—to form that Corps in such a manner that you, the representatives of the civil profession, might be really proud of it. Then the time came when you yourselves had to join it and became part of its organization. The work done in this war has been done by the civil medical profession. The regular medical service of the Army may be said to have been swallowed up in this great war. It will be the proudest recollection I can ever have to have been concerned in this work, and it is therefore that I thank you for having conferred this honour, not upon me—not upon me, but upon the great branch of the profession which has done such splendid things, and of which I am proud to have been on two occasions the head.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF FELLOWS.

Thursday, July 3, 1919.

Sir HUMPHRY ROLLESTON, K.C.B., M.D., President, in the Chair.

The PRESIDENT: I will ask the Secretary to read the Minutes of the last Meeting.

The SECRETARY (Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister) read the Minutes, which were approved, and signed as correct.

The PRESIDENT: I will now ask the Secretary to read the Report of the Council for the past year.

The SECRETARY read the Report, as follows:—

ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNCIL, 1918-1919.

The Roll of Fellows and Members of Sections as it stands to-day is as follows:—

Since July, 1918, the losses by death and resignation have been:

	Deaths.	Resignations.	
Honorary Fellows ...	—	—	
Fellows	44	12	= 56
Members	15	89	= 104
			<hr/>
			Total 160

During the Session there have been elected:

Honorary Fellow	...	1
Fellows	212
Members	12

The Roll of the Society is now as follows:

Honorary Fellows (British)	...	12
Honorary Fellows (Foreign)	...	13
Fellows ...	{ Town ... 1639 Country 1089 Foreign 279 }	3007
Members ...	{ Town ... 163 Country 359 Foreign 93 }	615

Honorary Fellows.—Some time ago the Council had under consideration the election of new Honorary Fellows to fill the vacant places caused by death, but it has not been possible to deal with this important matter. It is hoped, however, early in the new Session to submit to the Fellows for their approval a list of distinguished men whom the Council will recommend as worthy of the honour.

Hospitality.—We reported last year that the free use of the Society's Library and Fellows' rooms had been offered to the officers of the Overseas Medical Services, not only those from the Dominions, but from America and our Continental Allies. The

hospitality lasting over a period of four years given to the Société belge de Médecine et de Pharmacie en Angleterre, came to an end shortly after the Armistice, as our guests then returned to Belgium, after recording in the warmest terms their gratitude to the Society for its hospitality.

During the past Session this effort of hospitality was extended by arranging "Social Evenings," every Wednesday, when the Society's guests were invited to meet the Fellows and Members socially. Light refreshments and cigarettes were provided by a special entertainment fund, appropriate cinematograph displays were given and on each evening a short lecture was delivered. A list of these lectures will be found below. These evenings were well attended, sometimes over 300 guests being present, and apparently were much appreciated. The last Social Evening was given on June 4, when the chair was taken by Brigadier-General Birkett, C.B., C.A.M.C., and at the close of the proceedings, a very cordial vote of thanks to the Council and Fellows was carried enthusiastically. A widely-felt hope was expressed that similar meetings would be held next Session.

It is right that attention should be called to the share taken in the Society's hospitalities by the members of the Council Club, for they, by individual subscriptions, provided all the expenses of the refreshments, cigarettes, &c.

Medical Assessors. — Shortly after the Armistice the Services of the Medical Assessors appointed as a Medical Court of Appeal for men on being called up, were brought to an end, and the various rooms that had been placed at their disposal were no longer required. The Council received a very warm letter of thanks from the Government for what we had done to facilitate the work of the Assessors.

Increase of Subscription. — Fellows may remember that at the Annual Meeting of 1914 the question of increasing the Fellows' subscription was raised by several non-official Fellows, and a resolution was carried instructing the Council to take the matter into immediate consideration, as it had long been felt that the subscription of three guineas fell far short of what was necessary to provide all the privileges Fellows enjoyed under the new conditions. Before the Council could meet, the War broke out, and when they did meet, it was decided that in the circumstances the Fellows would condone the postponement of their instructions until after the War.

Immediately after the Armistice, as War conditions had made the question more pressing than ever, the Council took the matter into consideration and decided that it might be enough if the subscription of Fellows living within a short distance of the Society's house were increased, leaving those of Fellows living further afield unaltered. A Special General Meeting of the Fellows was summoned for the purpose of considering this, and it was resolved to increase the subscription of Fellows living or having a professional address within one mile of the Society's house from three guineas to five guineas, upon the understanding that such Fellows as had been engaged in War Service should not be called upon to pay the increased subscription until 1920.

Proceedings. — These, in spite of many difficulties arising from printing troubles and the paper control, have been carried on, and have appeared regularly, that is with the exception of the Proceedings of the Section of History of Medicine, as the Council of that Section very generously decided that, in view of financial and other difficulties, and as their Proceedings could not be regarded as of urgent importance, they should not be printed during the Session, but reserved for a supplementary volume to be printed after the declaration of Peace.

Fellowship of Medicine. — This body (now known as the Fellowship of Medicine) was constituted at a meeting of leading

members of the Profession held by invitation at the house of Lord Eustace Percy, with the idea of drawing together the English-speaking Medical Profession, but later extended to include all the Allies. Sir StClair Thomson and our Secretary (Mr. Mac Alister), were nominated the first Honorary Secretaries and requested to draw up a scheme of organisation.

Being in entire sympathy with the objects of the Fellowship, the Council granted the use of a room for its Secretaries and the use of rooms when required for lectures and meetings.

The Fellowship has been vigorously conducted and has achieved already a considerable amount of success. At the end of last year the Chiefs of the American and Dominion Medical Services asked it to endeavour to carry out an emergency scheme of Post-graduate instruction for young officers being demobilized, and a special Committee was elected for this purpose, the Honorary Secretaries being Mr. Lancelot Bromley, Mr. H. J. Paterson and later Mr. Franklin. Meetings of the representatives of the Medical Schools were held and a definite scheme announced, and it is enough to say here that already nearly 1,000 young officers, either demobilized or granted leave for the purpose, have taken advantage of the courses and the special lectures arranged for their benefit, and that weekly bulletins are issued from the Society's House for the information of the Post-graduate Students.

The Fellowship also early in the year gave a very successful dinner to the Harvard Unit when passing through London on its way home.

Very shortly the Fellowship will itself issue a Report of its activities; this will be available for the use of Fellows who will, we feel sure, be glad to know that the Society has been able so usefully to co-operate; for as it was then without funds, it would have been practically impossible for the organizers to have carried out their programme without the help of the Royal Society of Medicine.

British Medical Association.—On the occasion of the Clinical Conference of that body, held in London this Spring, the Council felt that it would be in harmony with the wishes of the Fellows to offer some hospitality to the Members of the Association on such an occasion, and, accordingly, a Reception was given on April 9, 1919, with a very attractive programme. The guests, amounting in the course of the evening to nearly 1,500, were received by the President and Lady Rolleston, and the Council has received from the Council of the British Medical Association an expression of warm thanks on behalf of their Members.

It is right to state here that the President of the Society (Sir Humphry Rolleston) insisted upon paying the entire cost of the Reception, and we feel sure that the Fellows at large will join with the Council in acknowledging this very handsome contribution to its funds.

The Hope Asklepios.—During the past Session the Society has received many valuable gifts, a list of which will be published with the Report, but perhaps the most notable one is the full-size cast of the famous Hope Asklepios, which, on the suggestion of the Secretary, was presented by Mr. Gordon Selfridge to the Society on January 7, and now forms a very notable object in the Society's Library.

New Section.—In his last Presidential Address the late President (Sir Rickman Godlee) suggested for the consideration of the Council the advisability of establishing a new Section to deal with matters connected with Medicine and Surgery in relation to War.

The Council first consulted the heads of the Medical Departments of the Navy, the Army, and the Air Force, and others who could speak authoritatively on the subject, and as all these were unanimously in favour of the institution of such a Section,

a Special General Meeting of the Fellows recently held confirmed the recommendation of the Council, and formally constituted the Section, which is now in process of being organized, and it is hoped will be able to begin work next Session.

Gibson Research Scholarship.—Early in the year the Council received a communication from Miss Maud Gibson, of Melbourne, to the effect that she desired to entrust the Society with funds for the purpose of providing a Scholarship in memory of her father, to be awarded to medical women, with the primary object of enabling them to carry out research work. When the terms of the Trust had been discussed and settled, Miss Gibson made over to the Society the sum of £6,000, invested in 4 per cent. War Stock, and as she was anxious that there should not be any delay in awarding the first Scholarship, later presented a cheque for £250 to enable an immediate award to be made.

Under the terms of the Trust Deed a Special Committee was appointed, and, on the advice of that Committee, the first Award has been made to Miss M. Esther Harding.

Protection of Dogs Bill.—A General Meeting of Fellows was held to consider whether the Society should take any action in connexion with this Bill and the following resolution was unanimously passed :—

“That the Royal Society of Medicine, representing as it does every branch of the Medical Profession throughout the Empire, and with full knowledge of the grave issues involved, feels bound to place on record its earnest hope that the Dogs Protection Bill will not pass into law—as, if enacted, it will place this country at a great disadvantage as compared with all other countries, and will practically compel our ablest workers to seek opportunities for preventive and curative research abroad.”

The resolution was duly forwarded to the Home Secretary and it was arranged that a representative deputation should wait upon Sir Hamar Greenwood, Bt., Under Secretary for the Home Department. The deputation was very cordially received by Sir Hamar Greenwood, who expressed the Home Secretary's thanks to the Society, and assured them of his sympathy.

Honorary Treasurer.—While Dr. Pasteur (Honorary Treasurer) was abroad on War Service, Dr. Farquhar Buzzard, at the request of the Council, very kindly undertook to discharge his duties, and during the whole period did so to the entire satisfaction of the Council, and the Fellows will join with the Council in cordially thanking Dr. Buzzard for his valuable services.

Victory Meeting of the American Association at Atlantic City.—The President of the Local Government Board informed the Council that he was anxious that British Medicine should be well represented at this Meeting, and urged that the Council should appoint a representative for the purpose. Accordingly the Council invited Sir William Arbuthnot Lane to accept the nomination; he consented, and is taking part in this important gathering.

General Discussions and Occasional Lectures.—During the Session the following General Discussions have been held and Occasional Lectures given.

GENERAL DISCUSSIONS AND OCCASIONAL LECTURES.

- (1) July 17, 1918: Colonel William Hunter, C.B., A.M.S., Occasional Lecture, on "The Prevention and Arrest of Lice-borne Diseases (Typhus, Relapsing and Trench Fevers), by new methods of Disinfection. A summarized account of two and a half years' practical experiences in the Eastern War Areas."
- (2) November 13 and 14, 1918: Discussion on Influenza.
- (3) January 14, 1919: Discussion on "Conditions under which Pensioners of the Army, Navy, and Royal Air Forces, are admitted into, and treated, in Civil Hospitals."
- (4) January 20, 1919: Sir J. W. Barrett, K.B.E., C.B., "The Management of Venereal Diseases in Egypt during the War."
- (5) Colonel Sir Almroth Wright, F.R.S.: Occasional Lecture, on February 25: "Lessons of the War in the Field of Immunization."
- (6) April 28, 1919: General Discussion on the Dogs Protection Bill.
- (7) June 19, 1919: Dr. Louis Sambon, Occasional Lecture: "The Sanitation of Tropical Lands; Suggestions based on West Indian Experiences."

Emergency Surgical Aid Corps.—Although these bodies (Naval, Military, and Metropolitan) have been voluntary and are not official, it is only fitting that the Council should at the termination of their services call special attention to their patriotic work.

With the permission of the Council to use the Society's house as their meeting-place, they were constituted quite early in the war, provided the funds for their own necessary expenses, and were organized at the request of the Naval, Military, and Police authorities into three distinct bodies, undertaking freely to give their services in case of need. At their own expense they were fully equipped with all necessary appliances, supplied their own fleet of motor cars—although when the difficulties arising in connexion with private cars occurred they were very generously helped by the Royal Automobile Club, London, and on being signalled for proceeded at once to any point to which they were summoned. The Great Eastern Railway and the London General Omnibus Company also provided transport gratis. They were called out on 69 occasions, and on being disbanded recently received the cordial thanks of the Admiralty, the War Office and Scotland Yard. As their public-spirited action undoubtedly reflected credit on the Society the Council feel that the Fellows at large may well join them in congratulating and thanking their *confrères* for their patriotic service.*

* From the beginning our secretary, Mr. MacAlister, acted as the Honorary Organizing Secretary of the Corps, and on their disbandment was entertained at a Complimentary Dinner in acknowledgment of his services.

HONORARY TREASURERS' REPORT.

The Honorary Treasurers have little to report beyond what is set out in detail in the audited Balance Sheet issued to the Fellows last January. The important financial event of the year is the increase of Fellows' subscriptions of those with an address within one mile of the house, being an increase from three to five guineas, and it is earnestly hoped that this increase will enable the Council to carry on without a widening of the radius; but it is impossible to foretell what the net result of this change will be until next Session.

The original Debenture Debt now stands at £17,700; the Debenture Loan from the bank now stands at £9,150; the balance of the Building Loan, owing to the bank is £12,533, and the amount owing to Fellows on account of Subscription Bonds is £9,860,—that is, a total capital indebtedness of £49,243. The Society's balance of assets over all liabilities is £75,833 12s. 10d.

It is still open to Fellows to subscribe to these Bonds, and the Honorary Treasurers earnestly hope that a large number of Fellows will avail themselves of this privilege, for privilege to the Fellow it undoubtedly is, while the advantage to the Society is that instead of owing a large sum to a single creditor who may be compelled to demand its return, the debt is spread over a large number of its own Fellows, and in small amounts, and it is extremely unlikely that any sudden call for repayment would embarrass the Society.

(Signed) WILLIAM PASTEUR,
HERBERT S. PENDLEBURY.

HONORARY LIBRARIANS' REPORT.

The work in the Library during the past year has steadily increased, owing to the demobilization and return of many Fellows from active service. On several occasions there were Exhibitions of rare and interesting books and the incunabula were collected and displayed in a central position.

The number of readers reached 11,172, and of these 2,340 were visitors, most of whom were American and Dominion Officers. The total number of books borrowed was 7,131.

Arrears of binding are being dealt with; 650 current periodicals and books were bound and 899 volumes repaired.

A large number of books, pamphlets, and periodicals have been added, the total number being over 4,000. Of these 178 were books received for review in the *Proceedings*, 110 were purchased, and about 600 periodicals were presented or bought in continuation. The remainder were donations, which included a large number of duplicates, pamphlets, and off parts of journals.

A beginning has been made with the sorting and arranging of the large accumulation of gifts. Valuable additions have been catalogued, and a method of eliminating unnecessary duplicates is being worked out.

(Signed) RAYMOND CRAWFORD,
WALTER G. SPENCER.

GIFTS OF BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED DURING
SESSION 1918-1919.

	No.	No.	
Dr. P. H. Abercrombie	80	International Dental Congress	2
American Red Cross Society	4	Dr. W. W. Keen	1
Rev. Canon Arnott	46	New York City, Department of Health ..	1
Mrs. Batten (the property of the late Dr. F. E. Batten)	131	Sir Frederic Kenyon, K.C.B.	2
Dr. Selfe Bennett	2	Mr. Frank Kidd	2
Lieut.-Colonel C. Birt	19	Dr. Percy Kidd	1
Sir John Bland-Sutton	1	Dr. R. Knox	1
Dr. Victor Bonney	2	Mr. Edward Law	66
Mr. Haydn Brown	1	London County Mental Hospitals ..	1
Dr. C. H. Browning	1	Lieutenant D. A. MacAlister ..	1
Dr. J. Mitchell Bruce, C.V.O.	1	Mr. James Macalister	1
Dr. Wm. Bulloch, F.R.S.	1	Sir J. Y. W. MacAlister	11
Miss Deane Butcher	124	Colonel R. McCarrison, I.M.S. ..	1
Dr. W. Deane Butcher (the late)	194	Mr. W. A. Maggs	1
Colonel C. Farquhar Buzzard	4	Sir George Makins, G.C.M.G. ..	23
Dr. Harry Campbell	1	Medical Research Committee ..	2
Dr. G. C. Cathcart	10	Michigan Academy of Science ..	1
Central Midwives Board	1	Minister of the Interior, Egypt ..	1
Dr. A. J. Chalmers	4	Ministry of National Service ..	1
Dr. L. G. Chacin-Itriago	1	Dr. G. H. Monrad-Krohn	1
Dr. Arnold Chaplin	1	Dr. E. C. Morland	25
Dr. J. Burton Cleland	1	Sir Henry Morris, Bt.	5
Dr. J. Comandon	1	Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O. ..	800
Conjoint Board of Scientific Societies	1	Sir F. W. Mott, K.B.E., F.R.S. ..	2
Mrs. Couper (the property of the late Mr. John Couper)	1,100	National Committee for Prevention of Blindness (U.S.A.)	6
Dr. Raymond Crawfurd	10	Sir Arthur Newsholme, K.C.B., M.D. ..	280
Mr. W. Harrison Cripps	407	Professor G. H. F. Nuttall, F.R.S. ..	2
Dr. C. G. Cumston	4	Sir William Osler, Bt., F.R.S. ..	3
Dr. Harvey Cushing	1	Mr. J. Herbert Parsons, C.B.E. ..	1
Dr. E. F. Cyriax	13	Mr. St. G. L. F. Pitt	2
Lord Dawson, G.C.V.O., M.D.	2	Mr. W. J. Pope, C.B.E., F.R.S. ..	1
Dr. S. Delépine	2	Dr. E. P. Poulton	2
Mr. H. C. Dickin	15	Sir D'Arcy Power, K.B.E.	2
Dr. Vincent Dickinson	10	Sir James Reid, Bt., G.C.B. ..	9
Dr. R. Donald	1	Dr. G. Riddoch	2
Dr. Fortescue Fox	9	Rockefeller Foundation	1
Sir Archibald Garrod, K.C.M.G., F.R.S.	37	Sir Humphry Rolleston, K.C.B. ..	1
General Council of Medical Education	1	Royal College of Physicians	1
Captain J. Alison Glover	3	Royal College of Physicians of Ireland ..	2
Dr. W. S. A. Griffith	2	Royal College of Surgeons	1
Mr. H. B. Grimsdale	8	Royal University of Upsala	1
Dr. O. C. Gruner	10	Dr. Pinthu Sai	1
Dr. A. S. Gubb	3	St. George's Hospital	80
Dr. R. Guillermín	2	Dr. C. W. Saleeby	2
Sir Robert Hadfield, Bt., F.R.S.	1	Dr. Arthur Saunders	3
Dr. H. R. Harrower	2	Mrs. Savill, M.D.	1
Harveian Librarian	1	Mr. J. Sefton Sewill	1
Mr. R. Hayes	2	Dr. E. I. Spriggs	1
Dr. Henry Head, F.R.S.	34	Dr. E. Stolkind	2
Mr. C. J. Heath	2	Sir StClair Thomson, M.D.	3
Dr. E. C. Henderson	9	Tōhoku Imperial University, Japan ..	1
Lieut.-Colonel A. S. Herbert	1	University of Glasgow	1
High Commissioner for New Zealand	1	Dr. W. Watkins-Pitchford	12
Lady Horsley	28	Dr. F. Parkes Weber	6
Dr. W. J. Howarth	1	Wellcome Bureau (per Lieut.-Colonel Andrew Balfour, C.M.G., M.D.) ..	35
Dr. A. F. Hurst	1	Mr. W. Whitaker, F.R.S.	1
Dr. T. Husain	20	Mr. E. G. White	1
Dr. R. Hutchison	1	Dr. Leonard Williams	3
Instituut voor Tropische Hygiëne, Amsterdam	1	Dr. O. K. Williamson	2
	1	Dr. A. Woldert	3
	1	Sir Almroth Wright, K.B.E.	2

The PRESIDENT: I now ask the senior Honorary Treasurer to present the Audited Accounts for the past year.

The HONORARY TREASURER (Dr. William Pasteur): The Fellows of the Society have had these Accounts circulated among them, and I do not think there is very much to which I have to draw your attention. Of course, the cost of running the Society has increased appreciably: salaries and wages are higher than they were, and that represents an important item in the increased expenditure. The Subscription Bonds have been taken up very widely by Fellows: at almost every meeting of the Finance Committee we have one or two additional Bonds being taken up. It is a most excellent thing for the Society to distribute the debt in that way, and the Treasurers very sincerely hope that this method of compounding, as it were, the subscriptions will be widely imitated by those who have not already taken advantage of them. The amount which has now been taken up in Subscription Bonds is £8,560.

I do not think there is any other matter that I have to mention in connexion with the Accounts, unless any Fellows wish to put any questions.

The PRESIDENT: I move "That the Annual Report of the Council, together with the Honorary Treasurers' Audited Accounts, be received and adopted." And now I hope that any questions or criticisms on the Report of the Council, or on the Accounts, may be brought forward.

Dr. J. PORTER PARKINSON: I should like to ask, sir, what is the position of those gentlemen who compound their subscriptions on the present basis? Does that really compound for the five-guinea new subscription, or does it compound for the three-guinea old subscription only? I have asked several people about this, and no one seems to know, and I think that at this meeting we ought to have a statement about it.

The HONORARY TREASURER: I think the answer to that is, that the £80 is *pro rata*: it is for the three guineas. The five-guinea amount will be proportionately greater.

The PRESIDENT: I will now ask the Meeting to vote on the resolution:

Carried nem. con.

The PRESIDENT: We proceed, next, to the election of Officers and other members of Council for the Session 1919-20. The list has been circulated. Is it your pleasure that it be taken as read, or shall we read it? As, according to the by-law, if no counter-nominations have been received, the list which has been circulated and suspended must now be taken as approved.

Sir D'ARCY POWER: Has the list been either suspended or circulated? I have not had a copy.

Sir JOHN BLAND-SUTTON: May we have the list read out?

The SECRETARY: The by-law requires only that the list shall be suspended in the Library, and that has been done. The list is as follows:—

Council and Officers 1919-1920

President

SIR HUMPHRY ROLLESTON, K.C.B., M.D.

Past-President.

Sir RICKMAN J. GODLEE, Bt., K.C.V.O., M.S.

Vice-Presidents

(Being the Presidents of the Sections)

ANÆSTHETICS	Llewelyn Powell, M.B.
BALNEOLOGY AND CLIMATOLOGY }	Neville Wood, M.D.
DISEASE IN CHILDREN	J. P. Lockhart-Mummery, F.R.C.S.
CLINICAL	Sir Anthony Bowlby, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.
DERMATOLOGY	Arthur Whitfield, M.D.
ELECTRO-THERAPEUTICS	A. E. Barclay, M.D.
EPIDEMIOLOGY	E. W. Goodall, O.B.E., M.D.
HISTORY OF MEDICINE...	Sir D'Arcy Power, K.B.E., F.R.C.S.
LARYNGOLOGY	E. B. Waggett, D.S.O., M.B.
MEDICINE... ...	A. F. Voelcker, M.D.
NEUROLOGY	W. Aldren Turner, C.B., M.D.
OBSTETRICS AND GYNÆCOLOGY }	J. D. Malcolm, F.R.C.S.Ed.
ODONTOLOGY	J. F. Colyer, F.R.C.S., L.D.S.E.
OPHTHALMOLOGY	W. T. Holmes Spicer, F.R.C.S.
OTOLOGY	Herbert Tilley, F.R.C.S.
PATHOLOGY	William Bulloch, M.D., F.R.S.
PSYCHIATRY	William McDougall, M.B., F.R.S.
SURGERY	Sir John Bland-Sutton, F.R.C.S.
THERAPEUTICS AND PHARMACOLOGY }	H. H. Dale, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.S.

Honorary Treasurers

William Pasteur, C.B., C.M.G., M.D.
Herbert S. Pendlebury, F.R.C.S.

Honorary Librarians

Raymond Crawfurd, M.D.
Walter G. Spencer, O.B.E., M.S.

Honorary Secretaries

A. M. H. Gray, C.B.E., M.D. Charles H. Fagge, M.S.

Other Members of Council

H. Russell Andrews, M.D.	Charles Ryall, C.B.E., F.R.C.S.
J. Charlton Briscoe, M.D.	Gordon Taylor, M.S.
J. F. Gordon Dill, M.D.	H. Campbell Thomson, M.D.
John Murray, F.R.C.S.	Jane Walker, M.D.
	Guy E. M. Wood, M.B.

The PRESIDENT: As no additional nominations have been received, I declare those whose names have just been read out, to have been duly elected

The PRESIDENT: Well, gentlemen, I am afraid it is my privilege to inflict upon you what really comes to be almost a kind of résumé of the Report of the Council, which you have heard read.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The past Session, which began some six weeks before the Armistice and now closes just after the signature of peace, has been a period of rather restless activity and change, for the air has been full of reconstruction. In the first place we heartily welcome numerous Fellows on their return from active service abroad, and sympathetically recognize that, like those who have borne the very considerable burden of keeping hospital, military and other work going at home, they have had their hands full in the anxious task of starting ordinary life again. The Society has naturally reflected the general picture of contemporary medical life, and rightly has mainly devoted its energies to doing the day's work. Since 1914 our rooms and meetings have been at the disposal of Medical Officers of the Services (including the Allies), and in January this house became the home and headquarters of the Emergency Post Graduate Scheme of the Fellowship of Medicine. The organization, chiefly due in the first instance to Sir Arbuthnot Lane's initiative, has its office on the third floor, and eighty-eight lectures have been given in the Barnes Hall and the West Hall. Further, the Society has been "at home" on fifteen Wednesday evenings between February 5 and June 4, so as to enable our medical colleagues of the Allies and the Dominions to meet our Fellows in an informal manner. On each of these Social evenings there has been an address kindly given by some Fellow of the Society, and this is a good opportunity to record our cordial thanks to Sir John Bland-Sutton, Sir Arbuthnot Lane, Sir Norman Moore, Sir William Osler, Dr. A. F. Hurst, Dr. Henry Head, Sir John Goodwin, Mr. Walter Spencer, Dr. W. Hunter, Dr. Moreland McCrea, Sir D'Arcy Power, Mrs. F. Dickinson Berry, Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, Dr. Steele Perkins, and Mr. J. C. Forsyth for contributing so largely to the success of these meetings. These meetings also serve a good end in making the Fellows better known to each other, and it is not improbable that this plan may be continued perhaps once a month during next winter. The professional work of the Society has in no way suffered on this account; in fact the Society may very probably have gained by obtaining a broader contact with the profession. Among the three set discussions that on Influenza on November 13 and 14 occupied four sittings and was well attended, many contributions being made by American and Dominion medical officers. Individual Sections have, from the absence of some of their officers and most energetic supporters, been at a disadvantage, but the more special Sections, and it would be invidious to mention them more directly, have been most active and successful. A new Section on Naval, Military and Air Medicine and Surgery, or, for short, War Section, foreshadowed in Sir Rickman Gódelee's last Presidential Address, has been duly constituted, and an attractive programme has already been planned for the forthcoming Session. The Society has now twenty-one Sections in active work, but there are still some branches which should be represented. It is much to be desired that Sections on Anatomy, Physiology, and Medico-

legal Medicine should be added unto us, for we should certainly gain by the opportunity of keeping more or less abreast with the developments of science, and it is probable that medicine as a whole would be advanced by a closer contact between those who labour in the laboratories and the wards respectively. By bringing together for their common help all the various departments of medical science the object of a Royal Academy of Medicine would be achieved; this title was indeed suggested for this Society at the amalgamation, but with a prophetic eye on this age of initials the powers that were feared inevitable confusion with the adjacent Royal Academy of Music. Still, it is better, especially if we cannot adopt the letters, to fulfil the spirit.

In addition to dealing with all medical knowledge the ideal medical society should, as in Sir Andrew Clark's conception, be "sufficiently powerful to defend the rights and promote the just interests of the medical profession." As this is one of the functions of the British Medical Association, and as it is a very difficult task to unite the members of our profession, the thorny subject of medical politics has in the past been carefully avoided by the Society. On June 18 of last year, however, a Committee was appointed to watch developments in connexion with the establishment of a Ministry of Health and a compulsory State medical service. This Ministry of Health Committee have held nineteen meetings, have also conferred with the British Medical Association and similar bodies invited by the two Royal Colleges, and after the combined meetings have submitted their views to Dr. C. Addison, who was in charge of the Bill. The Minister requested that a representative of the Society should sit on a small panel of not more than eight persons constituted to frame a list of bodies which should be invited to nominate persons suitable to become members of the Consultative Council to advise on medical and allied services, to scrutinize the nominations sent in, and to assist the Minister in the selection of persons to sit on the Council. This has been done, and the Royal Society of Medicine will be invited to make nominations for that Consultative Council.

In connexion with the Dogs Protection Bill, the Society organized a deputation of representative medical men to the Home Department on May 9, and at the request of the recently constituted Medical Parliamentary Committee the Council has sent two representatives to their Council. The Society has thus somewhat diverged from its traditional course, but it is to be hoped that with care we shall avoid the rocks.

The total number of Fellows is now 3,007 as compared with 2,851 last year, thus surpassing the previous record of 2,854 in 1914. The number of newly elected Fellows, which was 191 during 1913, and during the war averaged 75 a year, is 212. This at first sight very satisfactory increase is partly accounted for by the resolution of the Council which permitted existing members of Sections to be elected Fellows without paying any entrance fee during the period November 8, 1918, to May 7, 1919. The roll of Members of Sections is now 615, as compared with 707 last year, and shows 89 resignations, mainly due

to their election to the Fellowship, 15 deaths and 12 new additions. The number of members has steadily diminished from 919 in 1911, whereas the number of Fellows has increased from 2,327 in that year to just over 3,000. Comparison of these figures with the total strength—43,100—of the medical profession, and the 23,000 members of the British Medical Association shows that there is room for the hope that we may continue to increase in numbers.

The number of our Fellows at the present time is rather an anxious question, for, as you know, at a general meeting of the Society, on February 18, it was decided to raise the subscription for those Fellows living or having a consulting room within a mile of this house from three to five guineas. Such a step is obviously more likely to bring in a flood of resignations from Fellows whose increasingly busy life leaves little time for meetings and the use of our library, than to attract a rush of applicants. This problem of raising the subscription has been carefully considered, not only from the point of view that it might defeat its object but from reluctance to alter the attractive conditions on which the amalgamation was originally made. But times and the value of money have changed greatly during the war, and it must also be remembered that at this annual meeting in 1914 the Society instructed the Council to consider an increase in the subscription; and unless we are to be crippled, particularly in our library—our most valuable asset—we must move with the times. There is much to be done in the way of keeping the library up to date, in rebinding, sorting and cataloguing; further, the salaries of our library officials are at present under consideration, and in view of the general rise of prices will require alteration.

The Society has undertaken the administration of a Scholarship to be awarded to qualified medical women of the British Empire, generously founded by Miss M. M. Gibson in memory of her father William Gibson, of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. The Trust Deed which provides a yearly income of £250 for the holder of the Scholarship, was executed on April 2, 1919, and the first appointment, that of Miss M. Esther Harding, M.B., B.S.Lond., has duly been made. This is not the first time the Society has been entrusted with funds for purposes in connexion with the promotion of its objects. Probably the first was the Marshall Hall Fund, a sum of £517 13s., subscribed by admirers of Marshall Hall's brilliant work, who desired that he should be commemorated, and left it to the Council from time to time to decide how best this should be done. For a number of years the Council accumulated the interest and every five years carefully selected the man who in their opinion had done most for the advance of neurology during the previous five years and presented him with a cheque for the accumulated interest. As time went on, however, it became doubtful if this was the best way of commemorating Marshall Hall, and in 1912 it was decided that instead of presenting the quinquennial cheque to a distinguished neurologist, it would be better for neurology to establish a "Marshall Hall Library," and since then the interest from the Marshall Hall Fund has been spent on books, while a room close to the Library has been named after him and reserved for quiet

study. The next fund bequeathed to the Society was £600 by the late Mr. F. J. Gant, the author of "Gant's Surgery," to be invested, and the income spent upon the library. The next, if I may call the next something we have not yet received, is a legacy of nearly £40,000 which is promised to the Society under the will of Dr. and Mrs. C. G. Cumston, of Geneva, the income to be used by the Society for the advancement of its objects, but primarily for the promotion of the History of Medicine. Another Fellow is understood to have put down the Society for £2,000 in his will, and to be considering the Secretary's thoughtful suggestion that he should at once enjoy the pleasure of seeing his object carried out. Certainly there are few better ways in which the memory of a donor or someone whom a donor desires to perpetuate can be kept green, than by leaving trust funds to an old chartered Corporation such as this is. These donations and legacies are in their very nature perpetual, for even if the Society were to dissolve it would by law be compelled to hand over such trust funds to another body approved by the Lord Chancellor as capable of carrying out the original intention.

In conclusion, I must express our sincere thanks to the Officials of the Society, and especially to Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister. He has now been Secretary, and far more than Secretary, to the Society he has built up for more than thirty-two years, and perhaps in a way he stands in the position of a father, and his work and activities increase progressively with the years. During the last six years—and these include the public and private anxieties and sacrifices incidental to the War—he has carried out the self-imposed task of editing the *Proceedings* without any additional salary. This has saved the Society much expense at a time when this was a matter of great moment, and it is therefore tempting but neither fair nor wise to continue to fall in with his passion for overwork. The Officers of the Society are therefore considering, in consultation with Mr. MacAlister, the best means of relieving him of some of the less important routine duties that have accumulated upon him.

Dr. ALDREN TURNER: I have much pleasure in proposing, and asking you cordially to accept, the following resolution: "That the best thanks of the Fellows be offered to the President, Sir Humphry Rolleston, for presiding at this meeting, for his valuable services to the Society during the past year, and for the address which he has just delivered, and that he be requested to publish the address in the 'Official Bulletin.' "

Dr. STEELE PERKINS: I have very great pleasure in seconding that.

Carried by acclamation.

Sir D'ARCY POWER: Sir, I have the pleasant duty to propose a vote of thanks to the junior Honorary Secretary, Dr. Briscoe. The resolution runs: "That the thanks of the Society be given to Dr. Briscoe, the junior Honorary Secretary, for his valuable services to the Society." The work of an honorary secretary, as we know, is extraordinarily arduous in a large Society like this, and during the last year or two, while Dr. Briscoe has been acting, it must

have been even more hard than usual. We are very sorry indeed to lose him, at the same time we are very glad that he has been able to perform the work so thoroughly satisfactorily.

Sir WILLIAM HALE WHITE: I have the greatest possible pleasure in seconding that resolution of thanks to Dr. Briscoe. *Carried by acclamation.*

Mr. H. BANKS-DAVIS: Sir, it is a pleasure to me to propose and move "That the best thanks of the Society be given to the retiring Vice-Presidents and the other members of the Council for their valuable services to the Society during their respective terms of office, namely, Dr. Preston King, Dr. Porter Parkinson, Sir James Galloway, Mr. C. R. C. Lyster, Dr. James Donelan, Sir Archibald Garrod, Dr. Henry Head, Mr. H. Banks-Davis, Mr. Hugh Jones, Sir William Hale White, Dr. W. A. Brend, Mr. Arthur Ormond, and Dr. Farquhar Buzzard."

Dr. RAYMOND CRAWFURD: I am glad to second that. *Carried.*

Sir WILLIAM HALE WHITE: I desire to thank you heartily for the vote of thanks which you have passed to the retiring Vice-Presidents.

The PRESIDENT: I will now ask a Fellow who is not a member of the Council to move "that Mr. Lord, Chartered Accountant, be, and is hereby, elected Auditor of the Society for the year 1919-20."

Dr. ALDREN TURNER: I have great pleasure in proposing that resolution.

Dr. VINCENT DICKINSON: I have much pleasure in seconding that, Sir. *Carried.*

Major ERNEST BLACK: Before we part, Sir, might we, please, express our appreciation of the work of Mr. MacAlister? I do not know that this has been definitely stated before, so far. What you said about curtailing his work has been subjected by him, when I have suggested it to him, to the most violent protest, and as he is looking so much better, perhaps, therefore, you will not curtail him too much, but only help him. I think we should express our appreciation of his work, which is, really, almost beyond praise. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT: That concludes the business, gentlemen.

